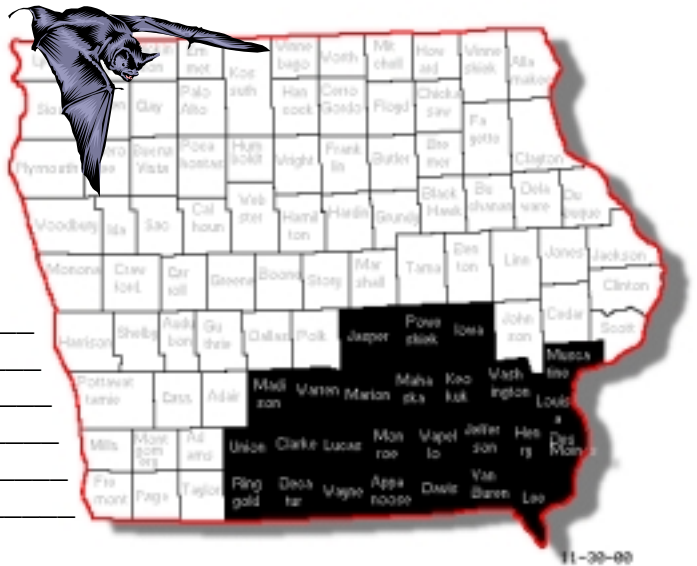


IOWA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Indiana Bat Summer Habitat Documentation Form
 For transportation projects requiring tree removal in
 Southcentral and Southeast Iowa



Project Information:
 Route _____, County _____
 Project No. _____
 Project termini _____
 Type of project _____
 Form completed by _____
 Date _____

For purposes of documenting the consideration of the above described project's anticipated effect upon Indiana bat summer habitat, the following questions have been answered based on Iowa DNR **Guidelines for Protection of Indiana Bat Summer Habitat** (revised February 28, 2000):

Within 0.5 mile of the site to be cleared,

- 1) are there at least 75 acres of concentrated rural or urban fringe forest cover, and
- 2) permanent water in the form of a stream, river, lake or farm pond?

YES _____ NO _____

If both of these conditions are not present within 0.5 mile and the answer is NO, suitable habitat does not exist, and no special clearing restrictions apply. (End of documentation. Place this form in project file.)

If adequate forest cover and permanent water are both present in the vicinity, and the above answer is YES, we must now consider whether potential summer roost trees are actually present in the area to be cleared:

Does the area to be cleared include any trees, live or dead, that:

- 1) are nine inches or greater in diameter, and
- 2) have at least 10% of their trunk and main limbs covered with loose or peeling bark (based on visual estimation), and,
- 3) exist in a density of at least one tree per 2.5 acres within the area to be cleared and the adjacent wooded area?

YES _____ NO _____

If all three of these – tree size, loose bark, and tree density – are not present and the answer is NO, suitable habitat does not exist, and no special clearing restrictions apply. (End of documentation. Place this form in project file).

If the answer for potential roost trees is YES, those trees meeting the criteria must be felled between September 30 and April 1, when bats have left Iowa to hibernate farther south. This restriction is required to avoid a possible illegal “taking” of Indiana bats by disturbing active maternity/roosting habitat.

--Ron Ridnour, Office of Environmental Services, 515/239-1613